



# FOOD DRIVE INFO PACK

## Items Included:

- Tips on organizing your Food Drive
- Facts about Hunger in our Community
- List of our Most Needed Items



# Guide to a Successful Food Drive

- Brainstorm and Plan - Choose your date(s). In a public setting, a single-day food drive can be very successful because the focus is on one particular day. In a workplace environment, consider a multi-week drive. This time gives employees multiple opportunities to contribute.
- Set Goals - No donation is too small or too big! For Second Harvest Food Bank, 1.2 pounds of food equals ONE meal. So no matter what you end up bringing in, we are grateful for the help! You may want to host a Virtual Food Drive along with your physical Food Drive. This is a great way to raise funds along with shelf-stable donations. For every \$1 donated, Second Harvest Food Bank can provide THREE meals to an East Tennessee neighbor experiencing hunger!
- Most Wanted Items - Please feel free to use the included list to share with your friends, family and colleagues. This list contains the most needed items for our food bank to help sustain our hunger relief programs!
- Collection System - Often, the best way to collect food is to use small to medium sized boxes that are easy to lift and transport. Collection boxes and barrels are available for your use, supplied by Second Harvest. Select a prime location for your food drive. High-traffic areas where the collection containers are visible are best! Make sure there is plenty of space for your collection containers and they are kept in an area that will keep the food safe. If you would like to borrow a barrel or box for your donations, please contact our Food Drive Coordinator at [fooddrives@secondharvestetn.org](mailto:fooddrives@secondharvestetn.org) or 865-243-8224.
- Promote your Food Drive - Spread the word! Be creative and have fun!
  - Place posters in highly visible places
  - Decorate food collection boxes
  - Send emails, blog about it, post it to your social accounts (tag Second Harvest Food Bank in your posts!)
- Thank your Food Drive Donors - Be sure to thank everyone who participated in your food drive and let them know how much their donations are appreciated by Second Harvest Food Bank! With more than 230,000 East Tennesseans at-risk of hunger, all help is greatly appreciated!



# Hunger in our Community

Every day in East Tennessee people are faced with a very difficult decision. Often, they must choose between paying for food or other essentials such as fuel, housing, and healthcare. This decision leads many to seek out emergency food assistance!

People of all ages and backgrounds in East Tennessee are served by Second Harvest Food Bank. Each program at the food bank is specifically designed to ensure no matter how young or old, that no one goes without food in Second Harvest's 18-county service area.

The total number of people experiencing food insecurity in East Tennessee has reached nearly 230,000.

A large portion of the people our food bank serves are considered the "Working Poor". This means there is at least one working adult in the household, but the wages earned exceed what is allowed to be qualified for government assistance. Sometimes, even receiving assistance, can still leave a hole in the needs of a household.

Through various feeding programs, Second Harvest Food Bank ensures that the food makes it from our facility into the homes of our neighbors in need of assistance. Hunger relief programs include: Food for Kids, Senior Outreach, Mobile Pantries, Food Rescue, Partner Agencies, Nutrition Access, Empowerment Services, and more.

Last year, Second Harvest distributed more than 24 Million pounds of food to 630+ community partners across an 8,000 square mile service area.



# Most Needed Food Drive Items

## Peanut Butter

## Canned Proteins

(tuna, chicken, salmon, beans)

## Canned Fruits

(peaches, pears, pineapple)

## Canned Vegetables

(green beans, corn, mixed veggies)

## Soups

(beef stew, chicken noodle, chili)

## Staples

(rice, dry beans, dry pasta, cereal)

**\*NO GLASS CONTAINERS PLEASE\***



**1.2 POUNDS OF FOOD = 1 MEAL**

For more information, please contact  
[fooddrives@secondharvesttn.org](mailto:fooddrives@secondharvesttn.org) or 865-243-8224

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**